



PHILIP L. BROWNING
Director

**County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

September 30, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

22 September 30, 2014

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVAL OF INCIDENTAL EXPENSES
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The County of Los Angeles Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) is seeking Board approval to use Department funding to pay for incidental expenses for community events for FY 2014-15.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

Approve the County of Los Angeles DCFS to use its existing Fiscal Year (FY) 2014-15 Budget to fund this expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$35,000 per year.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The primary purpose of these community events is to satisfy the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission (BRC) for Child Protection. The BRC Final Report has a recommendation dedicated to upholding Transparency and the Relationship with Providers and the Community wherein greater disclosure, clarity, and inclusion should be a routine component of community engagement from planning to review of outcomes and allocation of resources through the re-establishment of community advisory councils that are attached directly to each DCFS Regional Office.

Approval of the recommended actions will allow DCFS to incur incidental expenses such as food and beverages for training, education, and community engagement efforts for public and private organizations.

The Department strives to maintain numerous qualified families to provide guidance and care for vulnerable children who are at risk if they remain in their own homes. In order to achieve this goal, DCFS conducts and coordinates community events throughout the county. Another purpose of community engagement events is to disseminate pertinent information which is beneficial to the community to individuals and/or organizations. These community events create an open forum type of environment, where individuals can communicate their suggestions and concerns to the Department. The serving of food and beverages during these community events creates a more inviting atmosphere for families to feel welcome at these gatherings and family members' level of interest and engagement would be sustained throughout the duration of the entire meeting. There are approximately 400 community events planned with thousands of attendees per year. The average expense per event is less than \$100, and on average there are 30 attendees per event.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended action is consistent with the Countywide Strategic Plan, Goal #5 Children and Family Well-Being.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Funding is available in DCFS' FY 2014-15 Budget for expenses not to exceed \$35,000.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The estimated expense of \$35,000 exceeds the \$5,000 threshold for incidental expense, therefore, the item must be approved by the Board.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

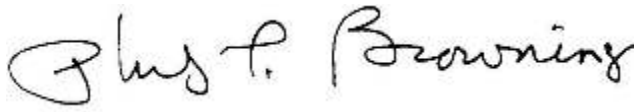
Approval of the recommended action will enable DCFS to support the continued design and delivery of high quality recruitment, training, and support efforts.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

9/30/2014

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Philip L. Browning". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "P" and "B".

PHILIP L. BROWNING

Director

PLB:CMM

RT:LT:ay

c: Executive Office/Clerk of the Board
County Counsel
Chief Executive Office